

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing tetrahydrogeranylacetone, comprising, conducting in which a liquid phase, comprising at least 90% by weight of pseudoionone and in which particles of a catalyst which is capable of preferentially hydrogenating carbon-carbon double bonds over carbon-oxygen double bonds, and the active component of which comprises palladium are suspended, ~~is conducted~~ through a device which inhibits the transport of the catalyst particles in the presence of a hydrogen-containing gas.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device inhibiting the transport of the catalyst particles has orifices or channels whose hydraulic diameter is from 2 to 2000 times the average diameter of the catalyst particles.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein catalyst particles having an average diameter of from 0.0001 to 2 mm are used.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the device used for inhibiting the transport of the catalyst particles is a dumped packing, a knit, an open-celled foam structure or a structured packing element.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the liquid phase and the hydrogen-containing gas are conducted

through the device, which inhibits the transport of the catalyst particles, at a superficial velocity of more than $100 \text{ m}^3/\text{m}^2\text{h}$.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The ~~A~~ process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the surfaces of the device facing toward the liquid phase have a roughness in the range from 0.1 to 10 times the average diameter of the catalyst particles.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The ~~A~~ process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein ~~the~~ a reaction pressure is from 1 to 100 bar.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The ~~A~~ process as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein ~~the~~ a reaction temperature is from 20 to 120°C .

Claims 9 and 10 (Canceled)